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Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to use this opportunity to briefly highlight how **existing and ready to use space-based services** can contribute to addressing the global environmental issues we are facing.

1) First of all, let me remind you that Astrium and Industry are key players for GMES Services. GEO, the Earth Observation Division of Astrium Services, is currently the coordinator of two GMES pre-operational services: SAFER, dealing with Emergency management, and GEOLAND 2, dealing with Land management. Astrium works with two consortia of more than 50 public and private partners. Large companies and geo-information SMEs are fully complementary here. These two services are now entering into their initial operational phase. As all GMES stakeholders and after years of co-investment, Astrium hopes that GMES will be back in the next EU Budget. To be honest, the sooner the better: industry needs visibility.

2) Climate Change should be one of the six core services of GMES commencing in 2014. Public and scientific bodies will have a key role in this service. Nevertheless, there are specific areas where industry could deliver a fully operational and efficient service:

- To better **understand climate change**, the service will deal with a huge amount of space and non space data: industry has significant capacities in data management. As an example, Astrium and the UK Space Agency are now considering co-investing in a new Climate and environmental monitoring facility, located at the International Space and Innovation Centre at Harwell in the UK, which would have the capacity to deal with such data.

- Forest monitoring will be decisive to **mitigate climate change**. You are all aware of the striking statistic, that land use change, of which deforestation is the main driver, amounts to about 20% of the total anthropogenic emissions of Greenhouse Gas. Information based on space assets is at the appropriate scale to establish a baseline over the past decades and then to monitor deforestation permanently in the future. This information is mandatory to trigger the so-called REDD financial mechanisms. As shown on the animated picture which will appear on the screens, Astrium Geo-Information Services has already worked with a Brazilian NGO to monitor the advancement of deforestation in Mato Grosso over the last 25 years **[picture]**. We are now partner of the French Development Agency for the monitoring of the Congo Forest. A similar approach is promoted by our German colleagues together with the German Agency for International Cooperation to monitor the Southern African Region. Optical and radar satellites such as SPOT and TERRA-SAR today, PLEIADES tomorrow, are complementary. They allow an establishment of a more localised forest monitoring, using reactive imagery to challenge deforestation and

forest degradation. My message is clear: if REDD will become a component of the future climate change mitigation service, industry would be able to deliver the requested space based information.

- Finally, **adaptation to climate change** will be enhanced if the future climate change service encompassed vulnerability scenarios as one of its components at national or regional levels. Europe has a strong added-value by providing Member States with products and analysis that each of them could not trigger alone. Here also, industry has a role in delivering information and analysis to help public authorities to take sound management decisions.

3) Already today 2/3 of the Essential Climate Variables (ECV) can be monitored through space assets. Thanks to continuous investment, Europe is a world leader in space for environment. **The financial crisis should not endanger this leadership, which requires a) GMES to become fully operational under EU funding and b) with new missions – such as Jason C-S (dedicated to Oceans) and Sentinel 5 (dedicated to Atmosphere) – to be adopted by the next ESA C-Ministerial.** Space for environment: Astrium is ready to be a partner of this shared ambition.

Thank you for your attention.

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